

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

11 June 1954

Present

Members :

CIA, Chairman
CIA

Stanley Wilcox, State

John Lacey, State

Richard Bauer, Army

Lt. Cdr. G. W. Roberts, Navy

NSA

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Consultants:

CIA

CIA

Andor Klay, State

NSA

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Observers:

CIA

CIA

CIA

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1. The 28th meeting convened at 11:00 hours and the minutes of the 27th meeting were approved as amended by Mr. Lacey of State Department. Mr. Lacey read State's amendments to the Subcommittee members entitled "Statement of State's Position with Respect to Action of the 27th Meeting of Subcommittee on the Exploitation of Nonscientific Chinese Publications." (Attached as Tab A)

The Chairman commented that the agreement on Chinese publications was a tentative program and is, of course, subject to review by the Subcommittee at the time agreed upon.

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2. [REDACTED] raised a question as to the method of dissemination of abstracts. He mentioned that within his office and other CIA offices there seems to be a wish that some provision be made so that it will not be necessary to take the same number of copies of all of the abstracts, and that serious consideration be given to making it possible to specify which ones and how many of each they wish to receive on a regular basis.

The Chairman asked that each agency member, if his agency considers this desirable, submit to him a list by journal specifying how many copies of abstracts from each such journal are desired by his agency. He further requested that this be done by 22 June to be taken up at a 23 June meeting with representatives of ATIC and AID.

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3. The Chairman discussed in detail the two exploitation programs being initiated by FDD in addition to those agreed to by the Subcommittee. Effective 28 May 1954, FDD began publishing the "Selected Briefs from the International Press" covering the following subject categories: Communist Movements, International Conferences and Fairs, East-West Travel and Contacts, Intra-Orbit Travel and Contacts, East-West Trade, Intra-Orbit Trade, East-West Cargo Shipments, Smuggling, Orbit Trade Advertisements in Non-Orbit Countries, Resistance and Sabotage Activities, Orbit Security Police Activities, and Orbit Civil Defense Activities. This report is published in the FDD Summary series with a classification of Confidential. Copies will be distributed to Committee representatives at the next meeting.

The second program which went into effect 11 June 1954 includes a Weekly Economic Information Report on China and a Biweekly Minorities, Education, Manpower, and Personalities Report on China. A copy of each new type of publication will be given to each Subcommittee member as soon as it appears.

4. In considering the exploitation of East European publications the following were elicited on item 1 on the Agenda: Current activities of the IAC agencies.

State: Mr. Wilcox stated that State has available products from each of our embassies or legations in satellite countries. Each embassy shares with [REDACTED] like JPRS, Moscow, a staff of 4 or 5 persons which processes the local press, makes translations of important documents into English and then circulates and sends them to Washington for further distribution. Albania, however, is no exploitation problem since no publications are being received.

Army: Mr. Bauer stated that Army does straight translations employing the services of the Translation Section, G-2, which includes six full-time translators, in addition to 338th MIS Battalion at Fort Meade and the technical services who have linguists with knowledge of the satellite languages. Their translations, however, are less than satisfactory in some cases. Editorial facilities are very limited. The service of the 525th Group at Fort Bragg is also being utilized and their translations are much better. Any material, however, made available to the 338th MIS Battalion and 525th Group must be used as a training exercise. They have no capabilities for regular exploitation and largely deal with translations of a purely military interest. Usually Army language facilities are limited to the subjects of ground forces, security, paramilitary, resistance activities, and similar activities of psychological warfare, ports and airports, railroads and bridges. On Albania the problem is one of procurement rather than exploitation.

Navy: Translation facilities are small and inadequate. No material has been received from Albania in years. The work that is not done by the translation section is done by the three analysts on the satellite desks. Newspapers and periodicals are received haphazardly, irregularly. Navy does have a definite interest in the satellite publications.

NSA: No facilities available.

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CIA: [REDACTED] stated that FDD receives on subscription, or on a regular basis through other channels, the following numbers of publication titles from the East European countries under consideration: from Albania, none at the present time; from Bulgaria, 31 newspaper titles, 15 periodicals; from Czechoslovakia, 25 newspaper titles, 23 periodicals; from Hungary, 9 newspaper titles, 24 periodicals; from Poland, 52 newspaper titles, 153 periodicals; from Rumania, 11 newspaper titles, 14 periodicals. He said that 14 analysts are available to exploit these publications as a common service, and that there were no area or subject limitations.

25X1A The nature of requirements against which FDD has exploited serial publications from Eastern Europe has varied from the very specific, necessitating a search for a single item of intelligence information, to the very general statement of interests. Intelligence information reports on Eastern Europe are the FDD [REDACTED] and Summary type reports. Reference materials and working files are adequate.

Expansion of activities is possible in the case of Hungary, Bulgaria, and Poland, which sections are below ceiling.

A common service to the intelligence community is currently being performed in the reporting of science news items and selected brief items from the East European serial publications exploited by FDD.

5. Item 2 on the Agenda: Needs for exploitation by FDD/CIA.

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State: Mr. Wilcox stated that State is furnished [REDACTED] with quite a few translations which are considered to be very good. Generally speaking, however, State needs for the satellite area an emphasized exploitation of provincial publications, coverage of which State cannot do themselves. State would prefer FDD to produce medium-level type research reports on a generally semi-annual basis for specific subjects.

6. A questionnaire will be drafted by the Chairman on exploitation needs for possible use by Subcommittee representatives in their own agencies. This will be presented at the next Subcommittee meeting.

7. The agenda for the next meeting will be the continued consideration of needs for the exploitation of East European Satellite publications.

8. The meeting adjourned at 1530 hours. The next meeting will be held at 1400 hours, Friday, 25 June 1954 in Room 2125 M Building.

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